UNITED NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/C.5/47/17
8 October 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Forty-seventh session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 104

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992-1993

Standards of accommodation for air travel

Report of the Secretary-General

INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is presented in accordance with General Assembly decisions 44/442 of 21 December 1989 and 46/450 of 20 December 1991, requesting the Secretary-General to continue to submit to it annual reports on standards of accommodation for air travel. It covers the period from 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992. As also requested by the General Assembly in its decision 40/455 of 18 December 1985 and its resolution 45/248 A, section XIII of 21 December 1990, respectively, information is included on all expenditures by the United Nations for first-class travel and on the meetings attended by eminent persons for whom exceptions have been made for first-class air travel.

2. During the period under review, standards of accommodation for air travel were governed by General Assembly resolution 42/214 of 21 December 1987, in which the Assembly provided that all individuals, with the exception of the Secretary-General and the heads of delegations of the least developed countries to the regular, special or emergency special sessions of the General Assembly, whose travel was financed by United Nations organizations and programmes and who had been previously entitled to first-class accommodation would be required to travel at the class immediately below first class. In the same resolution, the Assembly also authorized the Secretary-General to exercise his discretion in making exceptions to allow first-class travel on a case-by-case basis.

I. DELEGATION TRAVEL

3. As indicated in paragraph 2, General Assembly resolution 42/214 limits the payment of first-class accommodation by air to one representative of each Member State designated as a least developed country attending regular, special or emergency special sessions of the Assembly. Table 1 sets out the expenditures arising from payment of such travel.

Table 1. First-class travel with respect to representatives of Member States attending the General Assembly

(1 July 1991-30 June 1992)

	No. of journeys a/	Total cost of travel $
Forty-sixth session of the General Assembly	31	146 278
Total	31	146 278

a/ Journeys of delegations whose claims have been submitted to date.

II. EXCEPTIONS AUTHORIZED BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

4. As indicated in paragraph 2 above, General Assembly resolution 42/214 authorized the Secretary-General to exercise his discretion in making exceptions to allow first-class travel on a case-by-case basis. In addition, business-class travel may be authorized by the Secretary-General in certain circumstances, in accordance with administrative instruction ST/AI/249/Rev.3 of 29 March 1989.

5. Generally, in reviewing cases that may warrant an exception, the Secretary-General takes into consideration the following circumstances:

(a) A medical condition may exist necessitating a level of comfort not available in the normal standard of accommodation to which the traveller is entitled. Such cases are referred to the United Nations Medical Director for recommendation. Exceptions may also be granted when a traveller is of an advanced age and the normal standard of travel would have a detrimental effect on the traveller's health;

(b) The normal standard of accommodation is not available and, owing to the exigencies of the service, the traveller is required to travel on a particular date. Cases also arise where accommodation at the normal entitlement is not available and the cost of daily subsistence allowance, whilst waiting for the next available seat, would be greater than the higher standard of travel;

(c) Where the traveller is considered an eminent person such as a former head of State or prominent personality who is donating his or her services free of charge to the Organization, and, in some cases, at a loss of personal income, such individuals may be accorded the standard of accommodation to which they have become accustomed;

(d) A staff member, after completing a full day of work, is required to travel through the night in order to resume work, attend meetings or present a paper at another location on the following morning or immediately upon arrival. Where such cases involve arduous journeys or schedules, it has been deemed reasonable that the standard of accommodation accorded to the traveller provides the best rest possible while travelling or provides conditions most conducive to work while flying, or both.

6. In respect of the exceptions to air travel authorized during the period 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992 owing to the circumstances referred to in paragraph 5 above, the present report provides, in annexes I to IV, detailed information as to the additional cost of, and reasons for, such exceptions.

7. For travel during the period 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, the Secretary-General exercised his discretion by authorizing, as an exception, 112 cases of first-class travel. In addition, during the same period, the Secretary-General authorized business-class travel as an exception to the standards of accommodation in 55 cases.

8. It should be noted that, during the period under review, the Secretary-General or his designated representative was accompanied on all trips by a personal aide/security officer who also travelled in first-class. Exceptions to the standards of accommodation were not, however, sought in these cases.

9. For the period 1 July 1991 to 30 June 1992, the total additional cost incurred by the Organization as a result of exceptions to the applicable provisions was $199,675. This compares with a total additional cost of $106,600 (adjusted - see para. 11 below) for the previous reporting period.

10. Further, for comparison, tables 2 and 3 provide a summary, by category, of all the exceptions granted during the present and previous reporting period. It should be noted that a significant increase in exceptions was attributable to the category "eminent persons". For this category, in 1990-1991 the total number of trips was 34, at a cost of $34,093; in 1991-1992, there were 78 trips at a cost of $91,071.

11. In the context of monitoring adherence to the standards of accommodation for air travel, cases were identified in which a higher standard of air travel was undertaken than the normal entitlement, for which no exception had been sought or granted. In a number of these cases, subsequent ex post facto approval was sought for an exception to the standards of accommodation. In this regard, details of the exceptions authorized by the Secretary-General relating to the previous reporting period are outlined in annex IV to the present report.

Table 2. Summary of exceptions

(1 July 1991-30 June 1992)

Reasons for exceptions	First class		Business class		Total	
	Number of trips	Additional cost $	Number of trips	Additional cost $	Number of trips	Additional cost $
Medical condition or advanced age	22	36 493	13	18 866	35	55 359
Normal standard of accommodation not available	26	10 460	10	1 852	36	12 312
Eminent persons	46	77 417	32	13 654	78	91 071
Arduous journeys	0	0	0	0	0	0
Personal aides	18	40 933	0	0	18	40 933
Total	112	165 303	55	34 372	167	199 675

Table 3. Summary of exceptions

(1 July 1990-30 June 1991) a/

Reasons for exceptions	First class		Business class		Total	
	Number of trips	Additional cost $	Number of trips	Additional cost $	Number of trips	Additional cost $
Medical condition or advanced age	16	26 330	7	7 914	23	34 244
Normal standard of accommodation not available	30	12 188	8	3 487	38	15 675
Eminent persons	18	26 343	16	7 750	34	34 093
Arduous journeys	3	3 226	5	2 898	8	6 124
Personal aides	7	16 464	0	0	7	16 464
Total	74	84 551	36	22 049	110	106 600

a/ Adjusted for ex post facto authorizations.

Annex I

EXCEPTIONS AUTHORIZED OWING TO MEDICAL CONDITION OR ADVANCED AGE

(1 July 1991-30 June 1992)

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
A. First class		
Chairman, Committee on Contributions	Lahore/Karachi/Zurich/New York/ Geneva/Zurich/Karachi/Karachi/ Lahore	1 955
Staff member, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	.../Washington/Lagos/... a/	1 477
Staff member, UNDP	New York/Geneva/Amman/Baghdad/ Washington/...	1 740
Staff member and spouse, United Nations University (UNU)	Paris/Santiago	2 100
Participant, meeting on Global change and modelling	New York/Tokyo/New York	2 038
Participant, meeting on strengthening multilateralism: the role of the international scholarly community	New York/Geneva/New York	2 400
President, United Nations Administrative Tribunal	Paris/New York/Paris	1 400
Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	New York/Atlanta/Kingston/ New York	338
Member, United Nations Administrative Tribunal	New Delhi/New York/New Delhi	2 000
Member, United Nations Administrative Tribunal	New Delhi/Geneva/New Delhi	450
Executive Director United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)	Nairobi/London/Geneva/Zurich/ Warsaw/Frankfurt/Nairobi	1 020

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Brussels/Dusseldorf/ Frankfurt/Nairobi	480
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Cairo/London/New York/ Washington/Miami/Rio de Janeiro/ Sao Paulo/Milan/New York/Cairo/ Nairobi	2 930
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Zurich/Geneva/ Luxembourg/Geneva/Paris/Geneva/ Nairobi	985
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Cairo/Moscow/.../ Moscow/London/Nairobi	699
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Cairo	144
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/London/Geneva/Zurich/ New York/Dublin/Amsterdam/Nairobi	2 237
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Frankfurt/Sanaa/Jeddah/ Cairo/Paris/Lisbon/Geneva/Nairobi	1 553
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/London/Tokyo/Frankfurt/ Geneva/Cairo/Nairobi	1 738
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Cairo/New York/Chicago/ New York/Geneva/Cairo/Nairobi	2 274
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Paris/Geneva/Frankfurt/ Singapore/Kuala Lumpur/Frankfurt/ Geneva/Mexico City//New York/ Geneva/Nairobi	4 390
Executive Director, UNEP	Nairobi/Cairo/New York/ Rio de Janeiro	2 595
Total A		36 493
B. Business class		
Staff member, Department of of International Economic Cooperation	New York/Rome/Paris/New York	599

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Consultant, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	New York/Geneva/Zurich/Geneva/ New York	1 624
Consultant, UNICEF	New York/Geveva/New York	1 736
Consultant, Office of the Secretary-General	Geneva/New York/Geneva	2 538
Consultant, Office of the Secretary-General	Geneva/New York/Geneva	2 560
Consultant, Office of the Secretary-General	Geneva/New York/Geneva	2 560
Staff member, UNICEF	New York/Geneva/New York	1 724
Staff member, Office of the Secretary-General	New York/Geneva/New York	1 560
Coordinating Chief, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)	Geneva/New York/Geneva	382
Staff member, Department of Political Affairs	New York/Geneva/New York	1 736
Inspector, Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)	Geneva/New York/...	235
Staff member, UNICEF	New York/Geneva/New York	1 375
Staff member, UNICEF	New York/Geneva/Stockholm/ Copenhagen/Lisbon/London/Oslo/ Helsinki/Copenhagen/Amsterdam/...	237
Total B		18 866
Grand total A and B		55 359

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a/ The points of ellipses in a given itinerary indicate that some legs of the itinerary were by the regular standard of accommodation and no exception was involved.

Annex II

EXCEPTIONS AUTHORIZED WHEN THE NORMAL STANDARD OF ACCOMMODATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE

(1 July 1991-30 June 1992)

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
A. First class		
Executive Secretary, United Nations Compensation Commission	.../Rome/Amman/... a/	137
Staff member, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Amman/Geneva	260
Staff member, UNDP	.../Tunis/Cairo	120
Consultant, UNDP	Luanda/Sao Paulo/...	400
Former President of Venezuela	Caracas/Washington/Caracas	670
Secretary-General, UNCTAD	.../Moscow/Ulan Bator/...	312
Staff member, Department of Administration and Management	.../Damascus/Kuwait/...	382
Staff member, UNHCR	Amman/Geneva	260
Former President of Ecuador	.../Miami/New York/Miami/...	194
Former President of Ecuador	Quito/Washington/Quito	580
Former President of Ecuador	.../Miami/New York/Miami/...	184
Staff member, Department of Administration and Management	.../Damascus/Kuwait/...	382
Staff member, UNCTAD	.../Moscow/Ulan Bator/...	312
Nobel Prize Winner - Literature	Bogota/New York/Bogota	358
Staff member, Department of Administration and Management	.../Damascus/Kuwait/...	382

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Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Former President of Suriname	Paramaribo/New York/Paramaribo	464
Former President of Suriname	Paramaribo/Washington/Paramaribo	696
Former President of Suriname	Paramaribo/New York/Paramaribo	464
Executive Director, United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	Nairobi/Geneva/...	424
Executive Director, UNFPA	.../Tokyo/Beijing/...	357
Executive Director, UNFPA	New York/Miami/Tegucigalpa/ Miami/New York	310
Executive Director, UNFPA	New York/Bogota/.../Miami/ New York	376
Former President of Bolivia	La Paz/Washington/La Paz	1 606
Staff member, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)	Addis Ababa/Dakar/...	188
Staff member, Department of Administration and Management	.../Damascus/Kuwait/...	382
Staff member, UNHCR	Amman/Geneva	260
Total A		10 460
B. Business Class		
Participant, Meeting of Experts to Discuss Draft Proposals for an Inter-governmental Mechanism for Chemical Risk Assessment and Management	.../London/Dakar	150
Staff member, UNHCR	.../Nouakchott/Paris/...	97
Staff member, UNHCR	.../Nouakchott/Paris/...	97
Staff member, Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO)	Geneva/Beirut/...	433

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Staff member, UNHCR	Geneva/Amman/...	95
Staff member, UNHCR	Larnaca/Geneva	62
Staff member, Department of Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship	.../Nairobi/Addis Ababa/...	29
Participant, fourth session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on a Framework Convention for Climate Change	Geneva/Bamako/...	764
Staff member, UNHCR	Larnaca/Geneva	62
Participant, Subregional Training Course in Production Development and Management in Nairobi	Johannesburg/Nairobi	63
Total B		1 852
Grand total A and B		12 312

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a/ The points of ellipses in a given itinerary indicate that some legs of the itinerary were by the regular standard of accommodation and no exception was involved.

Annex III

EXCEPTIONS AUTHORIZED FOR EMINENT PERSONS

(1 July 1991-30 June 1992)

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
A. First class		
(i) Meetings of the Special High-level Council of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction		
Council member, Sweden	.../New York/Stockholm	112
Member of the Academy of Sciences of USSR, Deputy Chairman of the State Committee on Disaster	Moscow/New York/Moscow	2 658
Total (i)		2 770
(ii) Iraq-Kuwait Boundary Demarcation Commission		
Chairman, former Foreign Minister of Indonesia	Jakarta/New York	2 800
Chairman, former Foreign Minister of Indonesia	Halifax/New York/London	1 800
Chairman, former Foreign Minister of Indonesia	Jakarta/Geneva/Jakarta	1 700
Chairman, former Foreign Minister of Indonesia	Jakarta/New York/Jakarta	800
Chairman, Former Foreign Minister of Indonesia	Jakarta/New York/Jakarta	1 900
Total (ii)		9 000

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
(iii) Goodwill missions		
Goodwill Ambassador, United Nations Fund for the Advancement of Women (UNIFEM)	Los Angeles/New York/Los Angeles	1 754
Goodwill Ambassador, UNIFEM	Los Angeles/New York/Los Angeles	1 754
Goodwill Ambassador, UNICEF	Geneva/New York/Geneva	1 452
Goodwill Ambassador, UNICEF	Tokyo/Baghdad/Tokyo	2 975
Special Representative for the Arts, UNICEF	Frankfurt/Munich	60
Total (iii)		7 995
(iv) Intergovernmental Meeting to Review the Medium-Term Plan (ESCWA)		
Former Prime Minister of Lebanon	Beirut/Cairo/Beirut	110
Total (iv)		110
(v) United Nations Conference on Environment and Development: Tokyo Finance Meeting		
Former Prime Minister of France	Paris/Tokyo/Paris	3 109
Former President of Colombia	Colombia/Tokyo/Colombia	2 478
Former Prime Minister of Mexico	Mexico/Tokyo/Mexico	2 507
Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of China	Beijing/Tokyo/Beijing	324
Former Secretary of State for the Environment, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	London/Tokyo/London	2 657

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Participant, International Court of Justice	Netherlands/Tokyo/Netherlands	3 002
Former Prime Minister of Singapore	Singapore/Tokyo/Singapore	730
Participant, Ministry of Economy, Brazil	Brazil/Tokyo/Brazil	2 816
President, African Development Bank	Côte d'Ivoire/Tokyo/Côte d'Ivoire	1 550
Former President of Nigeria	Nigeria/Tokyo/Nigeria	3 312
Former Director, London School of Economics, Former President of Central Bank of India	Washington/Tokyo/Washington	2 496
Former President and Chief Executive Officer of Bank of America	San Francisco/Tokyo/San Francisco	2 146
Former Commonwealth Secretary-General	Kingston/Tokyo/Kingston	4 130
Minister of State for Population and the Environment, Indonesia	Jakarta/Tokyo/Jakarta	672
Former President of Costa Rica	Costa Rica/Tokyo/Costa Rica	2 134
President, World Economic Forum	Geneva/Tokyo/Geneva	2 725
President, Asian Development Bank	Manila/Tokyo/Manila	296
Former Foreign Minister of Sweden	Rome/Tokyo/Rome	2 879
Total (v)		39 963

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
(vi) Sasakawa Prize Selection Committee		
Member, Selection Committee	Jeddah/Geneva/Jeddah	808
Member, Selection Committee	Bogota/Geneva/Bogota	1 585
Member, Selection Committee	Bogota/Rio de Janeiro/Bogota	222
Member, Selection Committee	London/Geneva/London	306
Member, Selection Committee	The Hague/Geneva/The Hague	238
Member, Selection Committee	Nairobi/Geneva/Nairobi	1 024
Member, Selection Committee	Wilmington/Geneva/Wilmington	1 783
Representative of Mr. R. Sasakawa	Tokyo/Geneva/Tokyo	4 048
Representative of Mr. R. Sasakawa	Tokyo/Rio de Janeiro/Tokyo	5 773
Total (vi)		15 787
(vii) International Experts Workshop on the Role of Border Problems in African Peace and Security		
Former head of State of Nigeria	Lagos/Lomé/Lagos	10
Total (vii)		10
(viii) Development and Environment Commission for the Amazonia		
Former President of Ecuador	.../Miami/Washington/ a/ Miami/...	208

/...

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Nobel Prize Winner - Literature (Colombia)	Bogota/Washington/Bogota	160
Former President of Suriname	.../Port of Spain/Washington/ Port of Spain/...	318
Former President of Bolivia	La Paz/Washington/La Paz	996
Total (viii)		1 682
(ix) World Columbian Stamp Expo		
Artist, Earth Summit stamps	New York/Chicago/New York	100
Total (ix)		100
Total, A		77 417
B. Business class		
(i) Environmental Action Plan Meeting		
Minister of Housing and Planning, Uruguay	Montevideo/Washington/Montevideo	768
Total (i)		768
(ii) United Nations Conference on Environment and Development		
The Hague Symposium (FOUNEX II)		
Assistant Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Rome/Amsterdam/Rome	107
Director-General, Swedish International Development Authority	Stockholm/Amsterdam/Stockholm	113
Total (ii)		220

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
(iii) Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel, a working group of the Global Environment Facility (UNEP)		
Director-General, Department of Natural Resources Conservation, and Professor, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico	Mexico/Washington/Mexico	1 029
Adviser on Energy and Raw Materials to the Director of the French Industry	Paris/Washington/Paris	995
Professor of Economics, University College, London Special Advisor on Economy to the Secretary of State for the Environment, United Kingdom	London/Washington/London	1 428
Professor of Economics, University College, London Special Adviser on Economy to the Secretary of State for the Environment, United Kingdom	Washington/New York/London	215
Total (iii)		3 667
(iv) Study on training support for reforms envisaged by the United Nations system in the areas of operational activities		
Former Associate Administrator of UNDP	New York/Rome/Vienna/Geneva/ New York	1 966
Total (iv)		1 966

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
(v) Meeting of Ministers of Industry and Technology, Tehran		
Participant, Mongolia	Ulan Bator/Tehran/Ulan Bator	200
Participant, Afghanistan	Kabul/Tehran/Kabul	280
Participant, Lao People's Democratic Republic	Vientiane/Tehran/Vientiane	280
Participant, Bangladesh	Dhaka/Tehran/Dhaka	120
Participant, People's Democratic Republic of Korea	Pyongyang/Tehran/Pyongyang	310
Participant, Bhutan	Paro/Tehran/Paro	100
Participant, Kampuchea	Phnom Penh/Tehran/Phnom Penh	280
Total (v)		1 570
(vi) Forty-eighth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in Beijing		
Minister of Finance, Nuku Alofa, Tonga	Tonga/Beijing/Tonga	640
Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Tarawa, Kiribati	Kiribati/Beijing/Kiribati	610
Minister of Foreign Affairs, External Trade and Immigration, Port Villa, Vanuatu	Vanuatu/Beijing/Vanuatu	610
Total (vi)		1 860
(vii) Symposium on Globalization and Developing Countries		
Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations	Geneva/The Hague/Geneva	80

Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
Chairman of the Board, Bata Shoes	Toronto/The Hague/Toronto	244
Director of PROMETHEE	Paris/The Hague/Paris	39
Professor of Economics, Reading and Rutgers Universities	Newark/The Hague/Newark	684
Adviser to the Minister of State for Administrative Development, Egypt	Cairo/The Hague/Cairo	71
President, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)	Paris/The Hague/Paris	39
Executive Vice-President, General Electric	New York/The Hague	342
Chief Economist, Shell International	London/The Hague/London	50
Professor of Economics, University of Athens	Athens/The Hague/Athens	38
Professor of International Trade and Investment, John F. Kennnedy School of Government, Harvard University	Los Angeles/The Hague/Boston	586
Senior Vice-President for Operations, World Bank, 1980-1991	Washington/The Hague/Washington	548
Professor of Economics, Swathmore College and UN/INTECH (1992-1993)	Philadelphia/The Hague/ Philadelphia	882
Total (vii)		3 603
Total B		13 654
Grand Total A and B		91 071

a/ The points of ellipses in a given itinerary indicate that some legs of the itinerary were by the regular standard of accommodation and no exception was involved.

Annex IV

EXCEPTIONS RELATING TO PREVIOUS REPORTING PERIOD

Reasons for exception		Designation of of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
A.	First class			
(a)	Medical condition or advanced age	Canadian military observer, United Nations Observer Mission in Central America (ONUCA)	Guatemala/Miami/ Toronto/Ottawa	123
		Ambassador of Sweden to Rome	Rome/Geneva/ Washington/Rome	2 317
(b)	Normal standard of accommodation not available	Staff member, Habitat	Tehran/Zurich/ Geneva/... a/	288
		Chief Administrative Officer, United Nations Special Commission	.../Bahrain/ Amman/...	362
		Staff member, Department of Public Information	.../Lusaka/ Nairobi/...	74
		Workshop participant, Department for Disarmament Affairs	.../Douala/Paris	484
		Staff member, UNHCR	Bangkok/ Ho Chi Minh City	48
		Staff member, Habitat	Port-au-Prince/ Miami/San José	313
(c)	Arduous journey	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs in South-East Asia	New York/Tokyo/ Singapore/Jakarta/ Singapore/Tokyo/ New York	1 769
	Total A			5 778

Reasons for exception	Designation of traveller	Itinerary	Additional cost $
B. Business class			
(a) Normal standard of accommodation not available	Staff member, Habitat	.../Geneva/Nairobi	345
Total B			345
Grand total A and B			6 123

a/ The points of ellipses in a given itinerary indicate that some legs of the itinerary were by the regular standard of accommodation and no exception was involved.